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# WO 510 Worship Leadership in the Church

Lester Ruth

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Syllabus  
WO510 Worship Leadership in the Church  
Spring 2002

Note: This is a draft of the syllabus. Minor revisions will take place before the beginning of the term.

***You will need an ATS e-mail account to participate in required online, small-group discussions.***

**Professor:** Dr. Lester Ruth; BC 218; 858-2175; (email: lester\_ruth@asburyseminary.edu); Office hours: 9:45-10:45 Tuesdays and 3:30-4:30 Wednesdays; other times by appointment.

**Course description:** This course lays the foundation for the ministry of the whole congregation in corporate worship. Biblical, theological, historical and practical focus is brought to bear on the elements of prayer, Scripture, and music in terms of the design of services, the keeping of time, and worship space. Attention is given to interpreting, planning and presiding at weekly worship services, sacraments/ordinances, weddings, and funerals.

**Course goals:**

- 1) Students will learn ways to glorify God and edify the church in worship;
- 2) Students will practice providing gracious worship leadership;
- 3) Students will develop ability to make sound worship decisions based on historical, theological, and pastoral concerns;
- 4) Students will explore ways to enrich congregational worship in prayer, word, and sacraments/ordinances; and
- 5) Students will gain perspective on her or his own present practice of worship within the diversity of approaches to Christian worship.

**Required reading list:**

*Authentic Worship in a Changing Culture* (Grand Rapids: CRC Publications, 1997).  
Long, Thomas G. *Beyond the Worship Wars: Building Vital and Faithful Worship* (The Alban Institute, 2001).  
Mulder, Timothy J. *So You've Been Asked To Lead in Prayer* (Grand Rapids: CRC Publications, 1996).  
Redman, Matt. *The Unquenchable Worshiper* (Regal, 2001).  
Webber, Robert E. *Planning Blended Worship: The Creative Mixture of Old & New* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998).  
White, James F. *A Brief History of Christian Worship* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993).  
Witvliet, John D. *So You've Been Asked To Plan a Worship Service* (Grand Rapids: CRC Publications, 1999).  
Witvliet, John D. *So You've Been Asked To Lead a Worship Service* (Grand Rapids: CRC Publications, 1999).

NOTE! NOTE! NOTE! Every student is expected to purchase the book containing the official worship services of your denomination and read from it as directed in the class schedule below.

For some denominations these are as follows.

United Methodist Book of Worship  
Church of the Nazarene Manual (current edition)  
Free Methodist Pastor's Handbook  
The Discipline of the Wesleyan Church (current edition)

If in doubt, please check with the catalogue of your denominational publishing house or the bookstore staff.

NOTE! NOTE! NOTE! Every student will be provided a CD with video clips of worship services on it. Although you will not be tested on it, please view it according to the class schedule below.

**Grading and Evaluation:** Each student will receive a grade based upon a midterm exam and one of the following: a final exam or a comprehensive project. A numeric grade, which will be translated to letter grades, will be assigned to each. The exams will each count for 50% of the grade, unless the student opts to do the additional reading as described below. Students should refer to page 28 in the 2000-2001 ATS catalog to see qualitative descriptions of these letter grades. In this class "A" refers to a numeric grade of 94 and above; "A-" to 90-93; "B+" to 87-89; "B" to 84-86; "B-" to 80-83, and so forth.

--**Exams:** The midterm exam will occur during class on Wednesday, March 13. It will cover all of the required reading except the Matt Redman book. No in-class material will be covered on the exam. The midterm will use both true/false, identification, multiple choice, short answer, and short essay questions. The final exam is on tba. It will cover all of the lecture material from the beginning of the semester but no reading.

**The Comprehensive Project:**

--**Goals:** to give you a chance to integrate everything you have learned, read, and discussed by thoroughly evaluating a single worship service of a church other than your own; to sharpen your skills at pastorally evaluating a church's worship; and to give you a chance to pretend to be the pastor or worship leader, choosing what to maintain as a strength already and where you would try to strengthen its worship.

--**Choosing a church:** pick a church other than your own and one beyond your normal experience. Do not feel constrained to Protestant churches but it must be a Christian assembly. Do not be cautious about crossing ethnic lines, too. Try to choose one where you can visit its main worship service. For those who need guidance in selecting a church, please speak to the professor.

--**When to choose it:** Don't wait long. You will want to give yourself time to really chew on what you experienced there. Here's the optimal plan: choose a church early in the semester, videotape its service early, have this service in the back of your mind as you work with the data all semester long, occasionally watch the videotape so the service remains fresh, and then write a wham-bang project in early May.

--**Videotaping the service?:** While videotaping the service is not strictly necessary, it would be very useful. It will enable you to view the service several times to get the most accurate "read" of it. If you can't videotape a service, then take very good written notes during the service. You cannot use a service from TV unless you were actually at that service, too. You cannot get the full experience just from a TV telecast.

--**The parts of the project:** 1) what did you see?; 2) how would you evaluate it?; and 3) if you were the pastor or worship leader, what would you keep or change about the worship service and why?

--**The grid to apply:** You are responsible for this as you will be when you are a pastor or worship leader someplace.. I'm not going to tell you how to do it. Take this as your opportunity to shine by showing how you have digested everything in the course, integrating and synthesizing it into a usable way of evaluating worship. The development of a great evaluative grid is a large part of what I'm looking for in the project. I will also be looking for thoroughness and insightfulness in your project. For example, a project that does not comment on the worship space would be deficient in thoroughness and, for example, a project that limits its evaluation criteria to "it really moved me" will likewise be deficient.

--**The length of the project:** no more than 30 pages double spaced.

--**Examples available:** Two good examples from previous classes with my evaluative comments are placed in the course center for this class.

--Due date: the same day and time as the final.

--**Reading**: Note that everyone is expected to read all of the required readings. You will be thoroughly tested on all of it except for the Redman book. There is no reading schedule. You are expected to allocate your time in such a way as to make the most benefit of these readings and adequately prepare for the exams. Please note that there will also be reading done for small group online assignments; this reading will not be tested.

--NOTE! NOTE! NOTE! Every student should also get the book with her or his denominational worship resources. Pursuant to the class schedule below, students will read from these books in line with certain classes. Students will not be tested on this material but you owe it to your church as a matter of stewardship to become familiar with your denomination's resources.

--NOTE! NOTE! NOTE! Every student has the opportunity to do additional reading to improve her or his grade. If a student does an additional 350 pages of reading from the bibliography provided below (one book not on the bibliography can be read), then a grade of 100 will be averaged with the other scores to calculate the final grade in the following way: midterm exam grade, 40%; final exam/comprehensive project grade, 40%; reading grade of 100, 20%. Reading these additional pages is optional. Those who do not read the additional pages will have each the other assignments count for 50% of the grade as noted above. The purpose of this additional reading is to give students an opportunity to read more broadly in the field of worship. Thus the 350 pages should come from 7 different books with no more than 2 books from a single category. Students can read one book not listed on the bibliography among these 7 books. For students who choose this option, a report (provided below) must be turned in on the day the final is taken. This must be 350 pages of material you have never read before.

--**Developing worship services**: See the class schedule below for dates for which you should have prepared assigned worship services. On each occasion the student will turn in at the end of class a nicely prepared, type- or computer-written order. These will be evaluated in class, each student evaluating his or her own work. No letter grade will be given. Failure to turn in all required services will result in the loss of a letter grade, however.

--**Small group activities**: See below for more details.

--**Attendance**: Attendance throughout the course is expected; persons absent for more than three sessions of the course will not be eligible for a passing grade.

**Small group activities**: Students will be divided into small groups of 4 people based on denominational affiliation. Within your small groups you will do the following.

--**Have online discussions**: Each group will have its own folder within our on-line course. Most of the time you will conduct your discussions there. As listed in the class schedule below, I will post assignments involving a question or problem for your group to work with online that relates to an important worship topic, issue, or service. Every one is expected to post **ONE 50-75** word response to my question/problem and **at least ONE 50-75** word response to one other team mate's posting. Please note the due dates for each assignment. On the next class after the due dates bring to class a print out of both of your postings for each assignment. These will be collected as evidence of your having completed the assignment. Note that occasionally these assignments will require some short reading that will be on reserve. Failure to participate and complete all on-line assignments in a timely manner will result in the loss of a letter grade for the semester.

--NOTE! NOTE! NOTE!! Sometime in the first week of class, set up your First Class account if you have not already done so. To get everyone familiar with the process of posting online in response to my initial email posting, we will use this first week for practice. Open up First Class and find the folder for this class. Open it up. Find the folder for the teams. Open it up and find your team.

Respond to my initial posting about introducing yourself to your teammates. For problems with First Class email, contact Andy Adams @ 858-2373 or type ExL Support in the recipient line of an email.

--**Conduct practicums:** Within your small groups, you will be practicing for each other the following services: the Lord's Supper, baptism, a wedding, and a funeral. For each, use your official denominational resources, if these exist. If these do not exist, please ask the professor for guidance. No sermons are required. Each student must perform all four services for her or his group. Failure to perform all four services will result in the loss of a letter grade. Missing more than one evaluation session of other students' performances, if these are held separately from one's own performance, will result in the loss of a letter grade. Please see the information sheet attached to this syllabus for more information. In addition, there is an instructional video on reserve in the library under the professor's name on how to conduct these four services. For more information, please note the four optional worship leadership practicums that the professor is holding for the entire seminary community. These are open to anyone in the seminary.

--practicums (time: 2:30-3:45 p.m.; place: Beeson 114, the chapel, the "liturgical chapel")

--February 26: topic: how to do weddings

--March 19: topic: how to do funerals

--April 16: topic: how to administer the Lord's supper

--April 30: topic: how to do baptisms

### **Optional lunches to discuss answering questions about baptism with ordination**

**boards:** To supplement what can be accomplished in large classes, this optional opportunity is also available. Participation or non-participation will not effect students' grades. The lunches will be held in the Cordelia A dining room. The lunches' tone will be informal in which here will be sharing about what questions might be asked by an ordination board on baptism, how to be prepared, identifying the most crucial issues, and appropriate strategy. The lunches will be held on February 26 and February 27 at noon.

### **PowerPoint slides:**

These will be available before class through First Class Client (First class → Intranet → Students →

Lecture Power Points → Ruth). They are also available in the course center within our class folder in First Class.

### **Class schedule**

Date	Topic	Additional Reading/CD viewing
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Feb. 13	Course intro; God, the Bible and Christian worship (Lecture #1)	
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*Online: Make sure you have a First Class account; open it up; find the class folder and respond to the get acquainted assignment in your team folder. Complete by Feb. 20.*

Feb. 20	Theological considerations for worship  (Lectures #2 & 3)	read any doctrinal statement on worship in denominational resources
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*Online: The first online assignment on worship architecture will be posted on Feb. 20. Post an initial reply in your team folder and then another reply to a teammate's post. Complete by March 8.*

Feb. 27	Current trends in worship renewal; Developing a vocabulary for assessing worship (Lectures #4 & 5)	
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March 6	Ordering worship services  (Lectures #6, 7, & 8) <u>--For March 6, prepare a service according to the 4-fold order in Webber's <i>Planning Blended Worship</i></u>	look at suggested orders of worship in in denominational resources
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March 13	Exam on all required reading except Redman book	
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*Online: The second online assignment on the special Easter service will be posted on March 13. Post an initial reply in your team folder and then another reply to a teammate's post. Complete by March 26.*

March 20	Ordering worship services, part 2; The fullness of Christian worship (Lecture #9)	
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March 27	Time and remembrance in worship  (Lecture #10)	skim the material on calendar and church year in denominational resources
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*Online: The third online assignment on Wesley's view of the Lord's Supper will be posted on March 27. Post an initial reply in your team folder and then another reply to a teammate's post. Complete by April 16.*

April 10	The Space of Christian worship; Prayer in Christian worship (Lectures #11 & 12)	
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April 17	Music in worship (Lecture #13)	
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*Online: The fourth online assignment on tensions about baptism in Wesleyan thought will be posted on April 17. Post an initial reply in your team folder and then another reply to a teammate's post. Complete by May 7.*

April 24	Weddings and funerals <i>(Lectures #14 &amp; 15)</i> <u>--For April 24, prepare a wedding for a hypothetical couple you choose.</u> <u>--For April 24, prepare a service appropriate for a 75 year old Christian woman.</u>	read material on weddings and funerals in denominational resources
May 1	The Lord's Supper <i>(Lecture #16)</i>	read the Lord's Supper material in denominational resources
May 8	Baptism and initiation <i>(Lecture #17, 18 &amp; 19)</i>	read baptism material in denominational resources
May 15	Baptism and initiation <i>(Lecture #17, 18 &amp; 19)</i>	
Final exam:	tba.	

Supplemental Bibliography  
\*\*=on reserve for Ruth, WO510

When in doubt, check out the book list available through [www.calvin.edu/worship](http://www.calvin.edu/worship) and Webber's *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*.

**Category: Architecture**

White, James F. and Susan J. White. *Church Architecture: Building and Renovating for Christian Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.

**Category: Worship and the Arts**

Begbie, Jeremy, editor. *Beholding the Glory: Incarnation Through the Arts*. Baker, 2000.

Dyrness, William A. *Visual Faith: Art, Theology, and Worship in Dialogue*. Baker, 2001.

Sexton, Lin, "Doorways to the Kingdom: Finding Openings for the Visual Arts." *Worship Leader* 10, 1 (January/February 2001): 26-29.

\*\*Webber, Robert E., editor. *Music and the Arts in Christian Worship. Volume 4, Book 2 of The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Starsong, 1994.

**Category: Worship and the Bible**

Bradshaw, Paul F. "The Use of the Bible in Liturgy: Some Historical Perspectives." *Studia Liturgica* 22 (1992): 35-52.

Gibbs, Eddie. "Are We Still Hearing the Bible?" The Reading of the Word." *Worship Leader* 9, 2 (March/April 2000): 34-36.

Mineo, Robert. "Max McLean: Breathing Life into the Reading of the Word." *Worship Leader* 6, 5 (September/October 1997): 32-33.

Old, Hughes Oliphant. "The Reading of the Scripture Lesson as Worship." *Worship Leader* 10, 1 (January/February 2001): 10.

**Category: Worship in the Bible**

Hill, Andrew E. *Enter His Courts with Praise! Old Testament Worship for the New Testament Church*. Baker, 1993.

\*\*Webber, Robert E., editor. *The Biblical Foundations of Christian Worship*. Volume 1 in *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Starsong, 1994.

**Category: Calendar**

\*\*Hickman, Hoyt et. al. *The New Handbook of the Christian Year*. Nashville: Abingdon. (Provides a complete set of services for special days in the calendar with a great commentary.)

Stookey, Laurence. *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1996.

\*\*Webber, Robert E., ed. *The Services of the Christian Year*, vol. 5 in *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Starsong, 1994.

**Category: Children in worship**

Ng, David and Virginia Thomas. *Children in the Worshiping Community*. John Knox Press, 1981.

Steward, Sonja M. and Jerome W. Berryman. *Young Children and Worship*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.

Witvliet, John D., editor. *A Child Shall Lead: Children in Worship: A Sourcebook for Christian Educators, Musicians, and Clergy*. The Choristers Guild and the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 1999.

**Category: Conflict in worship**

Doran, Carol & Thomas H. Troeger. *Trouble at the Table: Gathering the Tribes for Worship*. Abingdon, 1992.

**Category: Worship and cultural/multi-cultural worship**

Black, Kathy. *Culturally-Conscious Worship*. Chalice Press, 2000.

\*\*Black, Kathy. *Worship Across Cultures: A Handbook*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.



Blount, Brian K. and Leonora Tubbs Tisdale, editors. *Making Room at the Table: An Invitation to Multicultural Worship*. Westminster/John Knox Press, 2001.  
Maynard-Reid, Pedrito U. *Diverse Worship: African-American, Caribbean & Hispanic Perspectives*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

**Category: Denominational books**

\*\*United Methodist Book of Worship  
\*\*Church of the Nazarene Manual (current edition)  
\*\*Free Methodist Pastor's Handbook  
\*\*The Discipline of the Wesleyan Church (current edition)

**Category: Discernment and the American context for worship**

Gaillardetz, Richard R. "North American Culture and the Liturgical Life of the Church: The Separation of the Quests for Transcendence and Community." *Worship* 68, 5 (September 1994): 403-416.  
Heather, Noel. "Enjoying Your Worship Experience: Consumerist Religious Discourse in the Late 1990s." *Anvil: An Anglican Evangelical Journal for Theology and Mission* 15, 1 (1998): 52-59.  
Seubert, Xavier John, "The Trivialization of Matter: Development of Ritual Incapacity." *Worship* 67, 1 (January 1993): 38-52.  
Witvliet, John. "Discerning the Spirits: Making Wise Choices in an Era of Liturgical Change." *Reformation & Revival* 9, 2 (Spring 2000): 15-28.

**Category: Evangelism and "Contemporary" Worship**

\*\*Benedict, Daniel T., Jr. *Come to the Waters: Baptism & Our Ministry of Welcoming Seekers & Making Disciples*. Nashville, Discipleship Resources, 1996.  
\*\*Benedict, Daniel T. and Craig Kennet Miller, *Contemporary Worship for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Worship or Evangelism*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1995.  
Langford, Andy. *Transitions in Worship: Moving from Traditional to Contemporary*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1999.  
Morgenthaler, Sally. *Worship Evangelism: Inviting Unbelievers into the Presence of God*. Zondervan, 1999.

**Category: Guides to "nuts-and-bolts" issues**

\*\*Anderson, E. Byron, editor. *Worship Matters: A United Methodist Guide to Ways to Worship*. 2 volumes. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1999.  
Hickman, Hoyt et. al. *The New Handbook of the Christian Year*. Nashville: Abingdon. (Provides a complete set of services for special days in the calendar with a great commentary.)  
Langford, Andy. *Blue Prints for Worship: A User's Guide for United Methodist Congregations*. Nashville, Abingdon, 1993.  
\*\*Webber, Robert E., editor. *The Renewal of Sunday Worship*. Volume 3 of *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Starsong, 1994.

**Category: History**

Bradshaw, Paul. *Early Christian Worship: A Basic Introduction to Ideas and Practice*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1996.  
Jones, Cheslyn et al., editors. *The Study of Liturgy*. Revised edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.  
Ruth, Lester. *A Little Heaven Below: Worship at Early Methodist Quarterly Meetings*. Nashville: Kingswood, 2000.  
Tripp, David H. "The Renewal of the Renewal of the Covenant?" *Doxology* 12 (1995): 7-23.  
\*\*Westerfield Tucker, Karen B. *American Methodist Worship*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.  
\*\*White, James F. *Introduction to Christian Worship*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000.  
White, James F. *Protestant Worship: Traditions in Transition*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.

**Category: Hospitality**

- Keifert, Ralph. *Welcoming the Stranger: A Public Theology of Worship and Evangelism*. Augsburg Fortress, 1992.
- Polh, Christine D. *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition*. Eerdmans, 1999.

**Category: Music**

- Berger, Teresa. *Theology in Hymns? A Study of the Relationship of Doxology and Theology According to A Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People Called Methodists (1780)*. Nashville: Kingswood, 1995.
- Collins, Dori Erwin and Scott C. Weidler. *Sound Decisions: Evaluating Contemporary Music for Lutheran Worship*. Augsburg Fortress, 1997.
- Foley, Edward. *Foundations of Christian Music: The Music of Pre-Constantinian Christianity*. American Essays in Liturgy. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1996.
- \*\*McLean, Terri Bocklund. *New Harmonies: Choosing Contemporary Music for Worship*. The Alban Institute, 1998.
- \*\*Webber, Robert E., editor. *Music and the Arts in Christian Worship*. Volume 4, Book 1 of *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*. Nashville: Starsong, 1994.
- Wren, Brian. *Praying Twice: The Music and Words of Congregational Song*. Louisville: Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2000.

**Category: Worship in a postmodern context**

- Sample, Tex. *The Spectacle of Worship in a Wired World*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998.
- Sweet, Leonard. *Post-Modern Pilgrims: First Century Passion for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century World*. Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000.
- Webber, Robert E. *Ancient-Future Faith: Rethinking Evangelicalism for a Postmodern World*. Baker Books, 1999.

**Category: Praise-and-Worship**

- Liesch, Barry. *The New Worship: Straight Talk on Music and the Church*. Baker, 1996.

**Category: Communal Prayer**

- Bradshaw, Paul. *Two Ways of Praying*. Abingdon, 1995.
- Stookey, Laurence Hull. *Let the Whole Church Say Amen! A Guide for Those Who Pray in Public*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2001.

**Category: Being a pastor and presider in worship**

- Bartow, Charles L. *Effective Speech Communication in Leading Worship*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1988.
- Jacks, G. Robert. *Getting the Word Across: Speech Communication for Pastors and Lay Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- Satterlee, Craig and Lester Ruth. *Creative Preaching on the Sacraments*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2001.
- Willimon, William H. *Preaching and Leading Worship*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1984.
- \*\*Willimon, William H. *Worship as Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1979.

**Category: Prophetic “Whoa Nellie” readings**

- Dawn, Marva J. *A Royal “Waste” of Time: The Splendor of Worshiping God and Being Church for the World*. Eerdmans, 1999.
- Dawn, Marva J. *Reaching Out without Dumbing Down*. Eerdmans, 1995.

**Category: Resource materials**

- Old, Hughes Oliphant. *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Worship*. Eerdmans, 1995.

**Category: Sacraments: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper**

- \*\*Bridge, Donald and David Phypers. *The Water That Divides: A Survey of the Doctrine of Baptism*. Mentor, 1998.

- Campbell, Ted A. "Conversion and Baptism in Wesleyan Spirituality." In *Conversion in the Wesleyan Tradition*. Ed. Kenneth J. Collins and John H. Tyson. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001, 160-174.
- \*\*Felton, Gayle Carlton, editor. *By Water and the Spirit: Making Connections for Identity & Ministry*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1997. (contains the text of "By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism," adopted by the 1996 General Conference of the United Methodist Church)
- Felton, Gayle Carlton. *This Gift of Water: The Practice and Theology of Baptism Among Methodists in America*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992.
- Macy, Gary. *The Banquet's Wisdom: A Short History of the Theologies of the Lord's Supper*. New York: Paulist Press, 1992.
- Satterlee, Craig and Lester Ruth. *Creative Preaching on the Sacraments*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2001.
- Schmemmann, Alexander. *The Eucharist: Sacrament of the Kingdom*. Crestwood: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1988.
- *For the Life of the World*.
- Stamm, Mark W. *Sacraments & Discipleship: Understanding Baptism and the Lord's Supper in a United Methodist Context*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2001.
- \*\*Staples, Rob L. *Outward Sign and Inward Grace: The Place of Sacraments in Wesleyan Spirituality*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1991.
- Wainwright, Geoffrey. *Eucharist and Eschatology*. Akron: OSL Publications.
- Willimon, William H. *Remember Who You Are: Baptism, A Model for Christian Life*. Nashville: The Upper Room, 1980.
- Willimon, William H. *Sunday Dinner: The Lord's Supper and the Christian Life*. Nashville: The Upper Room, 1981.

**Category: Worship in small churches**

- Ray, David R. *Wonderful Worship in Smaller Churches*. The Pilgrim Press, 2000.
- Willimon, William H. & Robert L. Wilson, *Preaching and Worship in the Small Church*. Nashville, Abingdon, 1980. [out of print]

Category: Worship teams

- Siewert, Alison et al., eds. *Worship Team Handbook*. InterVarsity Press, 1998.

**Category: Theology of Worship**

- Lathrop, Gordon W. *Holy People: A Liturgical Ecclesiology*. Augsburg Fortress, 1999.
- Lathrop, Gordon W. *Holy Things: A Liturgical Theology*. Augsburg Fortress, 1998.
- Schmemmann, Alexander. *The Eucharist: Sacrament of the Kingdom*. Crestwood: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1988.
- *For the Life of the World*.
- Torrance, James B. *Worship, Community & The Triune God of Grace*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996.
- \*\*Vogel, Dwight. *Primary Sources of Liturgical Theology: A Reader*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 2000.
- Wainwright, Geoffrey. *Doxology: The Praise of God in Worship, Doctrine, and Life*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1980.

**Category: Worship in a United Methodist context**

- Langford, Andy. *Blue Prints for Worship: A User's Guide for United Methodist Congregations*. Nashville, Abingdon, 1993.
- Phillips, L. Edward and Sara Webb Phillips, *In Spirit & Truth: United Methodist Worship for the Emerging Church*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2000.

## **Additional Information on Practicums**

**The assignment:** Perform, using the official resources of your denomination or other official denominational standard, for the members of your small group each of the following: a wedding, a funeral, the Lord's Supper, and baptism for both an adult and a small child (if your denomination baptizes small children). With respect to weddings, do the entire service. With respect to funerals, conduct both the initial funeral service and then the graveside committal/internment service in a cemetery. With respect to the Lord's Supper and baptisms, conduct the specific rites for these sacraments/ordinances, not an entire worship service. No sermons are required although they would be in real life.

**The goal:** to gain familiarity with the verbal and non-verbal aspects of leading these acts of worship in a supportive context in which one can gain peer evaluation of the graciousness and gracefulness of one's worship leadership.

### **Each student's responsibilities:**

- \_\_ review the instructional video on reserve in the library
- \_\_ review the official denominational services for these services, preparing them for use and making appropriate choices if the material provides that opportunity
- \_\_ choose and provide for any music that the student feels appropriate
- \_\_ adjusting the worship space as appropriate
- \_\_ providing the objects that might be needed in each service (e.g., wedding: rings; the Lord's Supper: wine/juice and bread; baptism: oil, candles, new clothing, towels, as needed)
- \_\_ find someone willing to role play an adult baptismal candidate (infant dolls are available for that part of the practicum) and people willing to role play a bride, groom, and at least one attendant for each

### **The group's responsibilities:**

- \_\_ keep an attendance sheet that will be turned into the professor at the end of the semester
- \_\_ choosing times (the professor suggests 4, one for each type of service) convenient for the entire small group
- \_\_ scheduling with the receptionist located in the lobby of the main administrative building the use of one of the seminary's chapels; some paperwork is required to reserve a room.
- \_\_ checking out from Melanie Feltner-Reichert, the administrative assistant in Beeson 226, the vessels needed for the Lord's Supper and baptism. She also had infant dolls for use in baptism. All material checked out must be returned.
- \_\_ providing useful, caring feedback to each other as to the graciousness and gracefulness of each person's worship leadership
- \_\_ cleaning all spaces and returning them to the state in which they were found.

### **Available spaces:**

- \_\_ Beeson 114 (the "liturgical chapel"): this is the best space for baptisms and the Lord's Supper because of its flexibility and intimacy. This space also has the only permanent baptismal font.
- \_\_ Estes chapel: a useful space for weddings, funerals, the Lord's Supper, and baptism if a portable baptismal font is supplied
- \_\_ use E204 (the small chapel beside Estes only if no other space is available); it is not suitable for the Lord's Supper at all.
- \_\_ for the graveside committal/internment service part of the funeral, use an inconspicuous spot on the Asbury campus or the grave of Henry Clay Morrison in the cemetery close to the railroad tracks.

**Timing and scheduling:** Precise timing/scheduling is left to the discretion of the group. The professor recommends holding four separate sessions, one for each kind of service. Allow a little more time for weddings and funerals. He also recommends holding these sessions in the general time frame

that these services are covered in the class lectures. With respect to the time of day, the facilities are generally available from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

**Equipment:** The following equipment is available for checking out from Melanie Feltner-Reichert in Beeson 226; all material must be returned to that same office.

\_\_\_for the Lord's Supper: small communion wafers, chalices (the large cups), patens (the plates), pitchers, small communion cups, trays for small communion cups, linen cloths

\_\_\_for baptism: infant dolls, glass pitchers, small glass bowls; larger bowls which can substitute for a baptismal font; inflatable children's pools useful in practicing baptism by pouring (the candidates can stand or kneel in them)

\_\_\_for funerals: a pall; Students much improvise for the casket, using either a large box or a table as a substitute

**Administering baptism in the baptism practicum:** Unless a student belongs to a denomination which officially recognizes only one mode of baptism, in which case the student should perform the practice baptism in that mode, each student is expected to demonstrate the ability to perform baptisms by immersion, pouring, and sprinkling. Although no immersion pool is available on campus, a student should demonstrate proper balance, footwork, placement of hands, and guidance of a live candidate as if the student was actually performing an immersion.

**Covenant:** Because practicums of this sort—with in-class performance subject to the verbal review of others—can be intimidating and open to possible misuse, the professor insists that the members of each group make a verbal covenant with each to offer critique with graciousness and to receive critique with graciousness, humility, and humor. Problems in group dynamics are to be reported to the professor at once.

**Practicum hotline:** Within the class folder in First Class, there is a folder labeled "practicum hotline" in which specific questions, suggestions, and answers about performing the four services can be posted for review by everyone in the class. Use this as an opportunity to gain feedback, information, and ideas from the professor and other class members.

Reading Report for Optional Reading

Due: At the time of taking the final or turning in final comprehensive project

By my signature below, I verify that I have accomplished the optional reading as provided for in the syllabus.

Book	Author	Pages read
1) _____	_____	_____
2) _____	_____	_____
3) _____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____
6) _____	_____	_____
7) _____	_____	_____
Articles read _____	_____	_____
Total pages read _____	(must be equal to or greater than 350)	_____

Name of student (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student information sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I moved here from \_\_\_\_\_

Current church (i.e., denominational) affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior church (i.e., denominational affiliation): \_\_\_\_\_

Year at ATS: 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Other

My greatest desire for this course is

\_\_\_\_\_.

I think the greatest challenge for the church today with respect to worship is

\_\_\_\_\_.